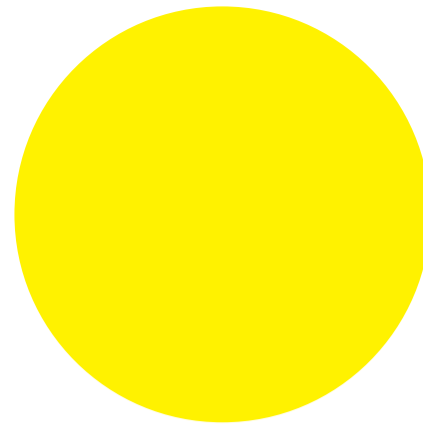




IRGC holds drills in Persian Gulf in defense of triple islands 2 >



Kuwait FM invited to Iran over gas field dispute 2 >



Iran Daily



irandaily.ir | newspaper.irandaily.ir

Vol. 7354 • Saturday, Aug. 5, 2023 • Mordad 14, 1402 • Muharram 18, 1445 • Price 40,000 Rials • 8 Pages

Why regional security is on the agenda of Iran and Pakistan?

Terrorism card game

A look at the functioning of terrorist groups in Pakistan for governments, regional and extra-regional intelligence services

4,5 >



Iran and Pakistan; two neighbors with abundant attractions 3 >



Iranian boys flying high at FIVB U19 World Championship 6 >



Iranian composer Bolourchi awarded 8 >

Iranian FM in Pakistan; Hopes and expectations



By Syed Ali Hassan
Iran Daily's correspondent in Pakistan

The foreign minister of Iran is currently on a four-day trip to Pakistan at the invitation of his Pakistani counterpart. Hossein Amir-Abdollahian's visit to Pakistan has two main objectives. His first objective is to enhance border security between the two countries and his second objective is to discuss bilateral trade and pending energy projects. The top Iranian and Pakistani diplomats have exchanged views in line with these two objectives and even signed a five-year strategic plan for commercial cooperation on Thursday. Page 2 >

Niger junta breaks off military cooperation with France

International Desk

AFP – A West African delegation has failed to secure the return to power of Niger's elected government despite proposals to resolve the crisis as the junta curtailed military cooperation with former colonial power France. The ECOWAS regional bloc's team arrived Thursday in the capital Niamey "but did not spend the night" as scheduled, nor meet with coup leader Abdourahamane Tiani or detained President Mohamed Bazoum, a delegation member

said Friday.

At the same time, the junta announced that it was scrapping military pacts between Niger and France, citing the former ruler's "careless attitude and its reaction to the situation". Niger has had a key role in Western strategies to combat an insurgency that has plagued the Sahel since 2012, with France and the United States stationing around 1,500 and 1,000 troops in the country, respectively. Regional powerhouse Nigeria holds the rotating presidency of Economic Community of



West African States (ECOWAS), which imposed sanctions and on Sunday gave the putschists a week to restore Bazoum to power or risk possible armed intervention.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MP warns of high UV index in Tehran



TASNIM – An Iranian parliamentarian has warned that the ultraviolet (UV) radiation index has reached a critical state in Iran's capital, Tehran, urging people to take the necessary safety measures to protect themselves from the sun's rays.

Referring to the increase in air temperature in the capital, Somayeh Rafiei called on people to seriously avoid exposure to direct sunlight from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, while using protective equipment such as sunscreen lotion and sunglasses, and not use open-air swimming pools.

Kuwait FM invited to Iran over gas field dispute



AFP – Kuwait's top diplomat has been invited to visit Iran, Kuwait's official KUNA news agency said, amid a dispute over a gas field between Iran, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

The dispute over the field – known as Arash in Iran and Dorra in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia – dates back to the 1960s, when Iran and Kuwait were given overlapping offshore concessions. Last year, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia signed an agreement to develop the field despite objections from Iran, which said in July that it was preparing to start drilling there.

Raeisi invites UAE president to visit Tehran



TASNIM – Iranian President Ebrahim Raeisi has officially invited United Arab Emirates President Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan to visit Tehran in the near future.

In April, Iran appointed an ambassador to the UAE for the first time since 2016 amid a realignment of relations between Persian Gulf Arab states and Iran.

IRGC holds drills in Persian Gulf in defense of triple islands



Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy launched drills to show its power and combat defense readiness in protecting the security of the Persian Gulf as well as the country's islands.

The exercises kicked off in Abu Musa Island on Wednesday with the presence of local authorities as well as a group of military commanders and officials, including IRGC Chief Commander Major General Hossein Salami and IRGC Navy

Commander Rear Admiral Ali-Reza Tangsiri.

It involves operational combat, vessel, missile, drone, air-sea, electronic warfare and rapid response units, along with Basij volunteer forces, Press TV reported.

Brigadier General Ali Ozmaei, commander of Imam Muhammad Baqir operational base of the IRGC Navy, said that the vessels of Martyr Hojaji Special Unit, equipped with missiles with a range of 600

kilometers, were present in the drills to defend the island's territory.

In addition to missile- and rocket-launching vessels, helicopters and aircraft took part in the maneuvers, during which 50 paratroopers successfully performed a heliborne operation, he noted.

"One of the important features of the drills was the use of drones and unmanned vessels that were upgraded through artificial intelligence," the com-

mander said.

"Another feature of the exercises was the transfer of troops from the mainland to Abu Musa Island and the Greater Tunb in less than 15 minutes using helicopters and airplanes." He further warned that trans-regional countries have no place in the Persian Gulf and that they should leave the region.

Qadir, Fath missiles unveiled

During the drills, the Qadir cruise missile system and the Fath ballistic missile were unveiled and added to the IRGC naval fleet.

Addressing the event, General Salami said his forces always strive for the security and peace of the country. He also said the Iranian nation gives decisive responses to all threats and seditions against the country. For his part, Rear Admiral Tangsiri said that the Persian Gulf belongs to all regional countries, and his

forces will spare no effort to protect Iran's territorial integrity.

"The Persian Gulf islands are a sparkling jewel that will shine forever on the water and soil of our Islamic homeland," he said of the three islands of Abu Musa, the Greater and Lesser Tunbs, whose ownership has been disputed by the United Arab Emirates.

He said the security of the Persian Gulf region is the common interest of all Persian Gulf countries.

Albania court places entry ban on MKO ringleader

An Albanian court has reportedly placed an entry ban on the ringleader of the anti-Iran terrorist cult Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO), which has murdered tens of thousands of Iranian nationals.

In a ruling issued earlier this week but made public on Thursday, Albania's Special Court on Corruption and Organized Crime ordered state authorities to prevent Maraym Rajavi from entering the country, Tasnim news agency reported.

Informed sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the verdict came after Albanian officials examined available pieces of evidence and concluded that the MKO was using the country to organize anti-Iran terrorist attacks.

According to Tasnim,

Rajavi fled the Ashraf-3 camp in the country's western town of Manëz to France after Albanian police forces raided the site on June 20 due to its engagement in "terror and cyberattacks" against foreign institutions. Authorities seized 150 computer devices linked to terrorist activities.

At least one person was killed and dozens of others were injured during the clashes at the camp. More than a week later, the police entered the camp again and security forces were deployed at the entrance to the camp to control all vehicles leaving the site.

Albania's Prime Minister Edi Rama later said the MKO must leave the country if it wants to use Albanian soil to fight against Iran, adding that

his country has no intention of being at war with Iran and "does not accept anyone who has abused our hospitality."

The MKO has carried out numerous terrorist attacks against Iranian civilians and government officials since the victory of the Islamic Revolution in 1979. Out of the nearly 17,000 Iranians killed in terrorist attacks over the past four decades, about 12,000 have fallen victim to the MKO's acts of terror.

The European Union, Canada, the United States and Japan had previously listed the MKO as a "terrorist organization." In 2012, the group was taken off the US list of terrorist organizations. The EU followed suit, removing the group from its list of terrorist organizations.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Iranian FM in Pakistan ...



The Iranian FM noted that his meeting is aimed

at facilitating the implementation of 190 documents already signed between Iran and Pakistan and reaching a sustainable and long-term cooperation deal. His Pakistani counterpart, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, called for the formation of a strategic committee to follow up on agreements on the expansion of cooperation, including those in the commercial and defense fields.

The emphasis of the foreign ministers on defense and security is not without cause. The border between Pakistan and Iran is 909 kilometers long. Pakistan's border province of Baluchistan has been in turmoil for a long time, and the enemies of both countries use Pakistan's land, especially in that province, for their terrorist activities. Similarly, Pakistan has claimed that evil elements have been present in Iran's border province of Sistan and Baluchistan for a few years. However, it

is surprisingly not clear who is preventing the conclusion of a border security agreement between Pakistan and Iran. Since the growing trade between the two countries will suffer greatly from a compromise in border security, the Iranian top diplomat will pay special attention to border security during his visit to Pakistan.

It should be noted that Amir-Abdollahian is the foreign minister of a country that has helped Islamabad in its most difficult economic times by allowing Pakistan to reap the benefits of trading in its local currency. Now, Pakistan is suffering from a severe energy crisis, which can be alleviated with the aid of Iran. This shines a new light on the meeting of the Iranian FM held with Pakistani businessmen and investors in Karachi on Friday. Karachi is the center of economic activity in Pakistan, and this fact has surely not escaped the eyes of Iranian top officials.

A quick examination of the political situation in the region reveals that Pakistan's leader has

gone to great lengths to maintain its friendship with the United States even though it has put the country's security at stake. The US has been sidelining Pakistan and trying to cement its friendship with India and the Taliban in Afghanistan for some time now.

Islamabad can take advantage of this opportunity and get more trade concessions from its neighboring country so that the Pakistanis who got hit by the inflation can get some relief. Hopefully, Tehran and Islamabad will be able to take their relations in a positive direction.

Iranian officials should cultivate a stronger relationship with Pakistan's private sector as it can help boost Iran's development. It is usually enough for traders and investors to keep their pockets stuffed with money, and this is no different for Pakistanis, but they should help Tehran recognize that Iran is in fierce competition with developed countries in various fields and every little edge counts.

Iran and Pakistan; two neighbors with abundant attractions

Iranica Desk

Bilateral relations between Iran and Pakistan go back 2,500 years, to the time of Achaemenid conquest of

the Indus Valley. The two countries are bonded by strong religious, political and cultural ties. There have been many vicissitudes in the two coun-

tries' ties, but both have managed them continuously and brought the relations back from the brink. Pakistan was the first country in the world to

recognize the Islamic Revolution of Iran in 1979. The country's then Minister of Foreign Affairs traveled to Tehran less than a month after the victory of the rev-

olution and met with Imam Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Revolution. Moreover, Iran was the first country to officially recognize the independence of

Pakistan in 1947. A variety of factors signify the importance of enhancing bilateral relations between the two Muslim nations, including the old

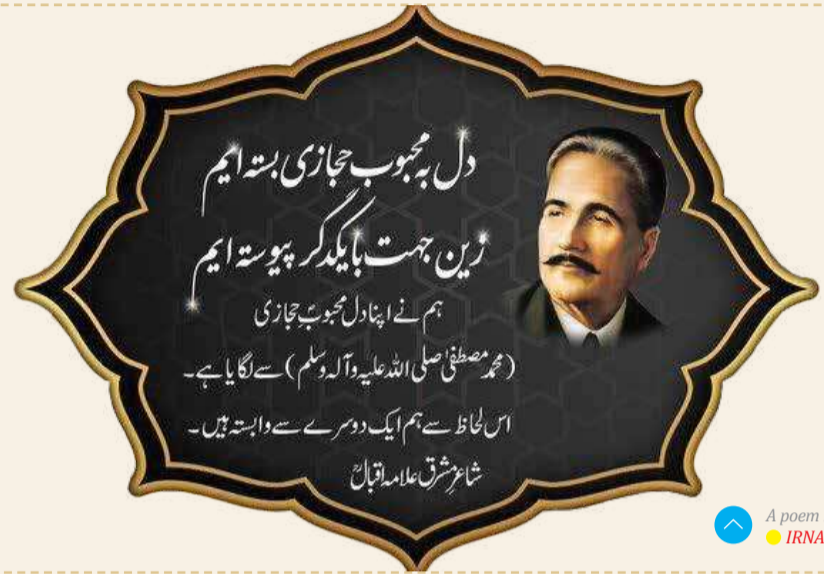
history and strategic geographical positions of Iran and Pakistan as well as their numerous cultural and traditional commonalities.

Pakistan has been one of the main spheres of influence of Persian culture, literature, and language in the Indian subcontinent throughout history. Pakistani people's interest in the Persian language is to such an extent that thousands of the country's university students are learning Persian language and literature only in Punjab Province. The provincial capital of Lahore, known as the cultural heart of Pakistan, is where you can observe traces of Persian language and literature in its historical and cul-

Language

tural heritage. The common language of Pakistan is Urdu, from which the country's national identity is not separated. Some people call Urdu the beautiful daughter of the Persian language. The national anthem of Pakistan is in the Persian language. It comprises several words that are widely used in Urdu as well. The use of Persian vocabulary in Urdu is something that is in conformity

with the nature of this language, as it has helped increase the strength, breadth and beauty of Urdu. A large number of Persian-speaking people live in Peshawar, Parachinar and Quetta. Muhammad Iqbal Lahori, a famous Pakistani poet, philosopher and politician, wrote many of his poems in Persian. He was fascinated by this language, thus, from the very beginning he chose it as means to express his thoughts in such a way that around 7,000 of the 12,000 verses of his poetry are in the Persian language.



A poem by Iqbal Lahori
IRNA

Architecture



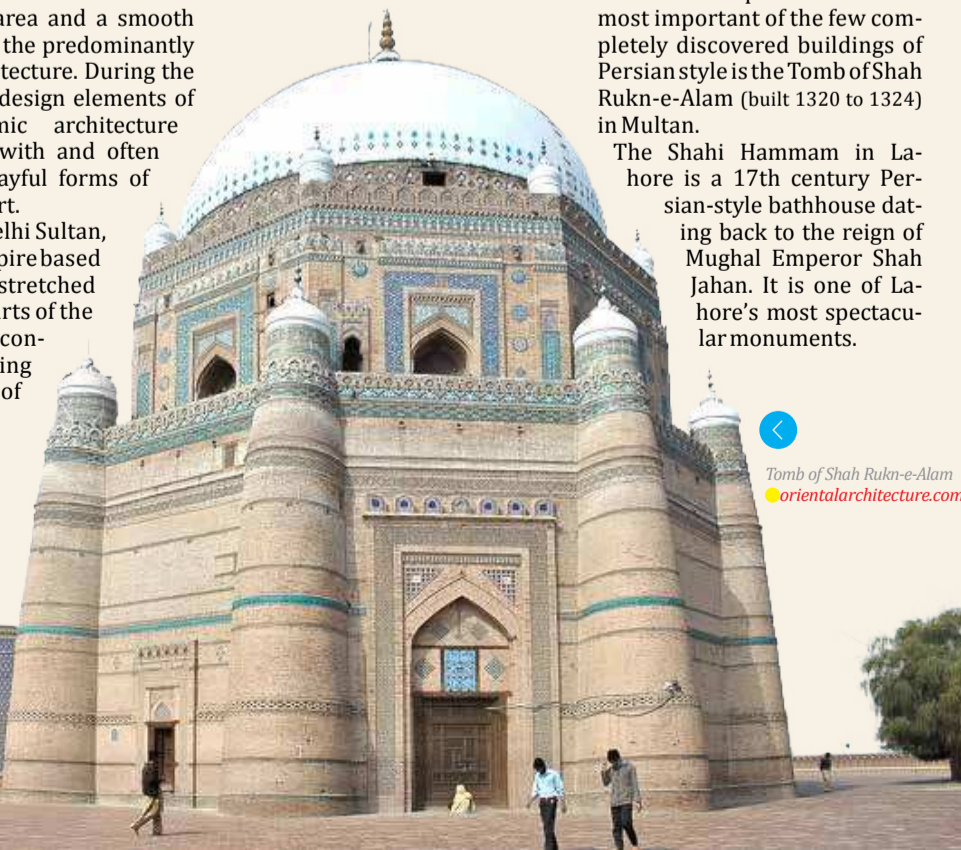
Shahi Hammam
weblogtheworld.com

Pakistani architecture refers to the various structures built during different time periods. The arrival of Islam in what is today Pakistan meant the sudden end of Buddhist architecture in the area and a smooth transition to the predominantly Islamic architecture. During the Mughal era, design elements of Persian-Islamic architecture were fused with and often produced playful forms of Hindustani art. Under the Delhi Sultan, a Muslim empire based in Delhi that stretched over large parts of the Indian subcontinent during the period of

Medieval India for 320 years, the Persian Central Asiatic style ascended over Arab influences. The most important characteristic of this style is the iwan, a ter-

race walled on three sides, with one end entirely open. Further characteristics are wide prayer halls, round domes with mosaics and geometrical samples and the use of painted tiles. The most important of the few completely discovered buildings of Persian style is the Tomb of Shah Rukn-e-Alam (built 1320 to 1324) in Multan.

The Shahi Hammam in Lahore is a 17th century Persian-style bathhouse dating back to the reign of Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan. It is one of Lahore's most spectacular monuments.



Tomb of Shah Rukn-e-Alam
orientalarchitecture.com

Culture

Nine Iranian cultural centers are presently operating in Pakistan showing the significance of the cultural relations between the two countries. Performing joint cultural programs, holding exhibitions showcasing various Iranian artworks including calligraphy pieces, manuscripts and handicrafts in Pakistan, strengthening the Persian language in Pakistan and increasing cultural exchanges between the two countries are among the measures which can be undertaken by these centers to further enhance bilateral ties.



Iran-Pakistan Institute of Persian Studies
tasnimnews.com

Tourism



Pakistani Pilgrims in the holy shrine of Imam Reza (PBUH)
shahrararenews.ir

The expansion of tourism cooperation between Iran and Pakistan can help the two countries boost their economies and reduce both the exploitation of their natural resources and the exports of raw materials. The two Muslim nations can use the cooperation of their private sectors to introduce their religious, cultural, historical and natural attractions to each other's peoples. Iran, especially Mashhad, the capital of Khorasan Razavi Province, hosting the holy shrine of Imam Reza (PBUH), the eighth Imam of Shia Muslims, is known as a main destination for many Pakistani tourists. About one million travelers arrive in Iran from Pakistan annually, a major number of whom visit Mashhad during their stay. The cities of Isfahan, Shiraz and

Kerman, with a significant number of cultural and historical attractions, are among other places drawing many Pakistani travelers. The Second Conference on Picturesque Iran, attended by the two countries' tourism officials and agencies, was held by the Consulate General of Iran in Karachi in 2022. The participants stressed on the use of the existing potential to help increase tourist exchange between the two countries.

A number of short films and documentaries on the tourism attractions of Iran were shown to the participants during the conference.

Pakistan, especially Sindh Province, with numerous cultural and natural sites, can also appeal to the taste of Iranian tourists. Unfortunately, Iranians have limited knowledge about the old and rich history of Pakistan, which ranks high in the global tourism industry. This country is blessed with breathtaking natural beauty, a rich culture and heritage, and great diversity of landscape offering an unmatched tourism potential.

The country is home to one of the oldest civilizations in the world, has innumerable locations of scenic beauty, world's highest mountains, many religious and historic places, unique arts and crafts, and a rich culture and heritage. More efforts should be made to increase the awareness of the Iranian people about Pakistan's attractions and prepare conditions for them to visit this beautiful country more easily.



Rani Kot Fort, Sindh
zameen.com

How to strengthen cultural ties between Pakistan and Iran



By Syed Ali Hassan
Iran Daily's correspondent in Pakistan

Pakistan and Iran are basically countries with a common cultural and political heritage, an agreement was signed between Pakistan and Iran on March 9, 1956, the basis of which was to establish cultural centers in each other's country. And more than four cultural centers were established in the provincial capitals, which work under the Ministry of Islamic Guidance of Iran. There is a spacious building of Islamic culture centers of Iran in Karachi, but it has not yet been used to increase the cultural relations between Pakistan and Iran. They have not performed any remarkable valuable services, so far nothing has been done to bring Urdu and Persian language closer, the proximity of Urdu language to Persian can be estimated from the fact that the national anthem of Pakistan is in Persian and Urdu poetry has many verses that Persian speakers can understand with full meaning without any translation.

Urdu is the national language of Pakistan and one of the seven official state languages of India. And has been under the influence of literature and its civilization, since the Persian language belongs to the family of Indo-Iranian languages, therefore, a natural relationship is established between Urdu and Persian, an Iranian scholar, Khawaja Mir Ali Tabrizi formed a new script which was invented by combining the two forms of writing Nashq and Taaliq of Arabic, which is called Nastaleeq, this is the popular script for Urdu today and it has become its own script of Urdu. If the capital spent on Culture Center buildings was spent on bringing Persian and Urdu closer, the political and social conditions of the regions would have been different. Pakistan and Iran are neighboring countries. It is true that there is no longer Persian poetry here or it is not of a quality that can be mentioned, the use of Persian words in Urdu poetry is disappearing while English and Hindi words are being included. Instead of looking for common ground in India, attention should be focused on the near neighbor Pakistan, which will give extraordinary boost to mutual relations.

at times, every poet of Urdu language used to adapt his words in Persian language, but he used to judge his poetic excellence by speaking in Persian language and his competitors also evaluated his merit by this skill, just like famous poets wrote ghazals in Persian language. It has been said that the Persian language is not being appropriated today, for understanding the Urdu language and literature as well as the classical heritage, it was indispensable to get familiar with the Persian language and literature, the poet of the East and the national poet of Pakistan Dr Allama Iqbal has left many diwans of Persian, Israr-e-Khudi is his first collection of Persian poetry, Allama Muhammad Iqbal also realized that the scope of Persian language and literature is a bit wider than Urdu language and literature. Also, this Persian language can be helpful for the work they want to do with language and literature.

The Islamic Republic of Iran can do a lot of work on Allama Iqbal's Persian language, it should be systematically translated and Urdu translation should be included in the educational curriculum of Pakistan along with the Persian language. It is worth noting that even now in common parlance, Persian words are used with great fluency, for example

بہشت نماز، پنج سورہ، پنج تن، ہفتہ، دوشنبہ، بریانی، دسترخوان، باورچی خانہ، غسل خانہ، نعمت خانہ، میز پوش، سفید پوش، بان دان، سرمہ دانی، صراحی، بت، سخن، دندان، ابرو، عارض، گیسو، نماز پنجگانہ، جانی نماز، نیم جان، نیم گرم، نیم حکیم، نا بینا اور پر نور، شادی

in this way more or less 6041 Persian words are a part of Urdu, along with the poetic and prose capital of Urdu, Persian language and literature also have deep influences on common speech. It is obvious that Persian has been used as the official language of Great India for three or four hundred years and the entire region has been under the influence of its culture and civilization. , collaboration of both Urdu and Persian for advancement in scientific sciences can be beneficial for scientific evolution in the region.

In addition to cooperation in Persian and Urdu, the governments of Pakistan and Iran can do a lot in other fields of arts, exchange of artists, joint production of dramas and films, Iran is a very suitable country for shooting Pakistani dramas, where naturally there are excellent locations where there are opportunities for tourism and drama but here it is also inevitable to mention the sad situation that baseless stories related to Iran have been planted in Pakistan. They cannot ignore the negligence and shortcomings of both governments and certain elements. Basically, it was the work of the Iranian diplomatic missions and families in Pakistan to present the real progressive face of Iran to Pakistanis, belonging to those sections of the society. With those who can accurately portray Iran, who can describe the developed cities like Tehran, Tabriz and Isfahan, Yazd, Mashhad and Gilan and Kish, there is still time to develop cultural relations between Pakistan and Iran on a real level. Which is the most influential on the overall relations of the two countries.

Why regional security is on the agenda of Iran and Pakistan?

Terrorism card game

A look at the functioning of terrorist groups in Pakistan for governments, regional and extra-regional intelligence services

A few days after the terrorist attack on the bus carrying IRGC border guards in February 2017, the government of Pakistan published a list of terrorist groups based in the country.

A list of 74 armed groups, a large number of which have taken refuge in the fertile region of Balochistan, which indicates a dangerous and unacceptable situation in this region; Some of these groups consider Iran as the target of their actions, and as mentioned, Afghanistan, India, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan are their next destinations. In order to understand the policy and functions of these groups, in addition to categorizing and analyzing their nature, their support structure should be sought at a level beyond the region. Organizations such as the Central Intelligence Agency of America (CIA), England's Secret Intelligence Service MI6 and the intelligence services of some governments in the region are traditionally focused on the region, and recently the Foreign Intelligence Service of the Zionist regime (Mossad) has made many movements in the eastern regions of Iran. It has had traces that could be recognized in the terrorist attacks on the Islamic Republic's border guard between May and July of this year.

It is not possible to introduce all the terrorist groups based in Pakistan and even only the groups whose target is Iran; In summary, it is mentioned that for the ease of recognizing and identifying the nature of these groups, they can be considered under a three-fold structure; These groups follow the three discourses of ethnic nationalism, religious excommunication and Marxism.

The life of these groups should be considered through the aesthetic

reinterpretation of their social, cultural, security and economic structures. From a social point of view, we should mention the mafia-like tribal structure of these groups under a pyramid of power, which is the connection between the daily fabric of the tribe and the life of the mafia. are taken and managed under the authority of a person at the top of the pyramid.

The main means of information and psychological warfare of these groups also takes place on the platform of Telegram. The financing of these groups is mainly done through cultivation, distribution and smuggling of drugs and goods, as well as hostage-taking, banditry, and receiving money from foreign governments. Children and students, with the permission of the leaders of these groups, are defined from childhood as soldiers with guns ready to commit suicide and a tool to earn money.

Another important point regarding the existence of armed terrorist groups in Pakistan is that these groups, in addition to terrorist operations in the territory of other countries and imposing costs on those areas, have caused heavy damage to Pakistan itself and apart from the death of tens of thousands of people. According to the government of Pakistan, only up to 2011, the country imposed 68 billion dollars in economic costs to the government, which has increased significantly since 2001 and the presence of the American military under the pretext of fighting terrorism after the September 11 incident.

Recently, a joint meeting was held at the headquarters of the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Support in Tehran between Deputy Minister of Defense Sardar Seyyed Mehdi Farhi

and Lt. Gen. Hammoud Zaman Khan, Secretary General of the Ministry of Defense of Pakistan, in which both sides emphasized on ways to deal with separatist groups and border criminals.

Along with the expansion and deepening of Iran-Pakistan relations, especially the development of economic relations as a basis for creating stable security and joint security cooperation, it is valuable to have a serious will to completely remove the Western intelligence services, especially the American and Zionist services, from the national security cycle of Pakistan. This approach blocks the ways of financial and information support for these groups, and from this point of view, it should be considered as a serious step by the government of Pakistan to fight terrorism and border evil.

Serious and practical monitoring of some schools and preventing the spread of Wahhabi takfiri thinking is another important step that provides a basis for creating stable security in the region.

Historically, re-reading England's sectarian policy in India and Pakistan and creating differences between these groups can be very useful in informing the public opinion of Iran and the subcontinent region. It is necessary that there should be a strategic approach to the issue of the role of the Royal Court of England in dominating the subcontinent and the differences between Islamic sects, and this historical process of colonization should be read from different cultural, historical, economic, political and security angles. Overseas media arms can play an important role in representing the true image of British colonialism.



Chabahar Free Zone is a safe investment location for Pakistanis



By Syeda Tafseer Fatima
Researcher and scholar

For the investors of any country in the world, the protection of capital and its growth is of the greatest importance for the capitalist, while the protection of capital is connected with security and the rule of law, the rule of law and security throughout Iran is ideal, but the facilities for foreign investors are lacking. There is still a lot of work to be done to provide, however, the government of Iran has established free zones throughout the country for domestic and foreign investors, where special rules have been made for foreign investors through which not only foreign investors can get Iran's capital protection, but the Iranian government has obliged the banks to ensure faster capital supply for real investment. The distance between Iran's Chabahar Free Zone and the world-class Gwadar port in Pakistan is only 206 km. Kilometers, 24-hour supply of electricity and gas, cheap electricity and gas in addition to 300%

reduction in petroleum products reduce the price of products due to which investors in Iran's free zones can easily compete in the global market competition situation. The weather and climate and the lifestyle of the local people are common features that will increase the returns of Pakistani investors.

The city of Chabahar, with an area of about 17,150 square kilometers and a population of over 200,000, is located on the open waters of the Gulf of Oman at the southernmost point of the province of Sistan and Baluchistan.

Chabahar is located at the closest distance to the Indian Ocean, while Chabahar is Iran's only sea port, the deep water strategic position of Chabahar port and the natural structure have made space for jetties, the depth of sea water is suitable for berthing of large ships. India has developed the necessary technical facilities, due to which this port has the potential to be transformed into a mega port. When Pakistan faced internal and external challenges in terms of construction, there were

obstacles in the development of this port city, then India suspended the construction of Chabahar Port on the pretext of American sanctions, which caused a coldness in the relations between Iran and India. Now the complete construction of Chabahar Port has been included in China's Road and Build project.

It should be noted that Chabahar port will be the eastern transit gate of Iran in the near future and Chabahar Free Zone has been created as a strategic region for the global transit industry, a distinctive feature of other southern coastal areas of Iran and even the Persian Gulf states. Considering all the above-mentioned facts, the special geographical position of the southeastern part of Iran, especially the Chabahar Free Zone and the port, is of great importance for the development of the region, not only Iran, but also neighboring and Economic relations with the countries of Central Asia will be promoted, Chabahar's prominent and natural location will help in increasing trade in the region, while the facilities provided by the Chabahar Free Trade Zone organization will attract capital from the

world and especially Pakistan. It will be very attractive for the owners, Pakistani investors can take the most advantage of the rapid development of Chabahar, due to this, the end of the deprivations of the Baloch on both sides, economic development, access to international markets, job opportunities will be available. Chabahar's limited population and the absence of industrial workers will be a golden opportunity for skilled workers from Karachi to Gwadar. If Pakistani investors set up industries in chahbahar, the migration of local artisans will be facilitated, which will increase Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves. , Pakistani industrialists can increase their exports from Chabahar a hundredfold due to cheap electricity and transportation The only Iranian seaport with the capacity to anchor ships and the presence of warehousing and value-add facilities is an excellent opportunity for investors, mostly Chinese and Indian, to connect Central Asia and Afghanistan with open seas. It is the shortest route, the shortest transit route to the countries in the east of Iran, Afghanistan,

Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, having extensive marine resources and facilities for nurturing aquatic life.

Being connected with roads, energy and telecommunication infrastructure and railway lines are some of the features of Chabahar Free Zone.

According to the United Nations Transport Survey, about 50% of the global transport of goods takes place in the Far East, two transport corridors pass through Iran, the world's major cities including Karachi, Bin Qasim, Calcutta, Nikpur, It covers transportation in Jaipur, Hyderabad and finally reaches Chabahar. According to experts, Chabahar port is the crossroads of South-North and East-West corridors around the world. Investing in India can earn more returns than any other country.

The need for development of tourism industry in Pakistan, Iran



By Abu Mustafa Tabatabai
Editor

1 Pakistan and Iran are two neighboring countries that are recognized as attractive in terms of tourism and both countries are considered to be culturally rich regions. If both countries and the private sector pay serious attention to it, this can become a billion dollar industry. And it will have a positive impact on the economy of both countries, the governments of Pakistan and Iran must pay attention to this aspect, Iran and Pakistan belong to a geographical region where there are four seasons, flowing rivers and a range of green and lush mountains. As well as having a long coastline, the mountain ranges in the north of Pakistan are where mountaineers from all over the world come to set world records. It's hard, here are 20 of the most beautiful places in Pakistan, from wild mountain passes and surreal lakes to ornate mosques and ancient forts, Pakistan's tourism assets are the oldest remnants of human civilization in Pakistan. The Gilgit-Baltistan province consists of heavenly regions, the hospitality of the people here and the river is a great gift of nature for domestic and foreign tourists. China is developing routes for international trade from this region. International The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan, whose border districts are renowned worldwide for their beauty and the exemplary hospitality of the local people, has made significant

2 investments to connect them with a quality road and railway network, but the hostile attitude of the West has reduced the beauty and cultural delights of this region. Although the past of this province has been bitter, but the present and future of Swat valley is very bright, this amazing valley located in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province is similar to a fairy tale, the real beauty of Swat is Kalam city. Located nearby, which is a base to explore the beauty of the valley, Hunza is a famous tourist region of Pakistan, inhabited by Ismaili Shias and Twelver Imami Shias, a peaceful and well-educated region open to all types of tourists. Here are some of the most beautiful places in Hunza, a part of the ancient Silk Road.

It is not intended to mention the Pakistani tourist places, which are thousands, but this brief introduction is because there is no tourism trend from Iran to Pakistan. It is found in Central countries, security and political stability is a big problem in Pakistan, here political and economic decisions are made with great speed on the American side, which has a bad effect on security and political stability.

Despite this, there is great potential in the tourism sector, people need happy moments. The tourist centers of Pakistan, especially Gilgit-Baltistan, where peace and tranquility are ideal, Karachi and the coastal areas of Balochistan are the most suitable places for tourism at this time.

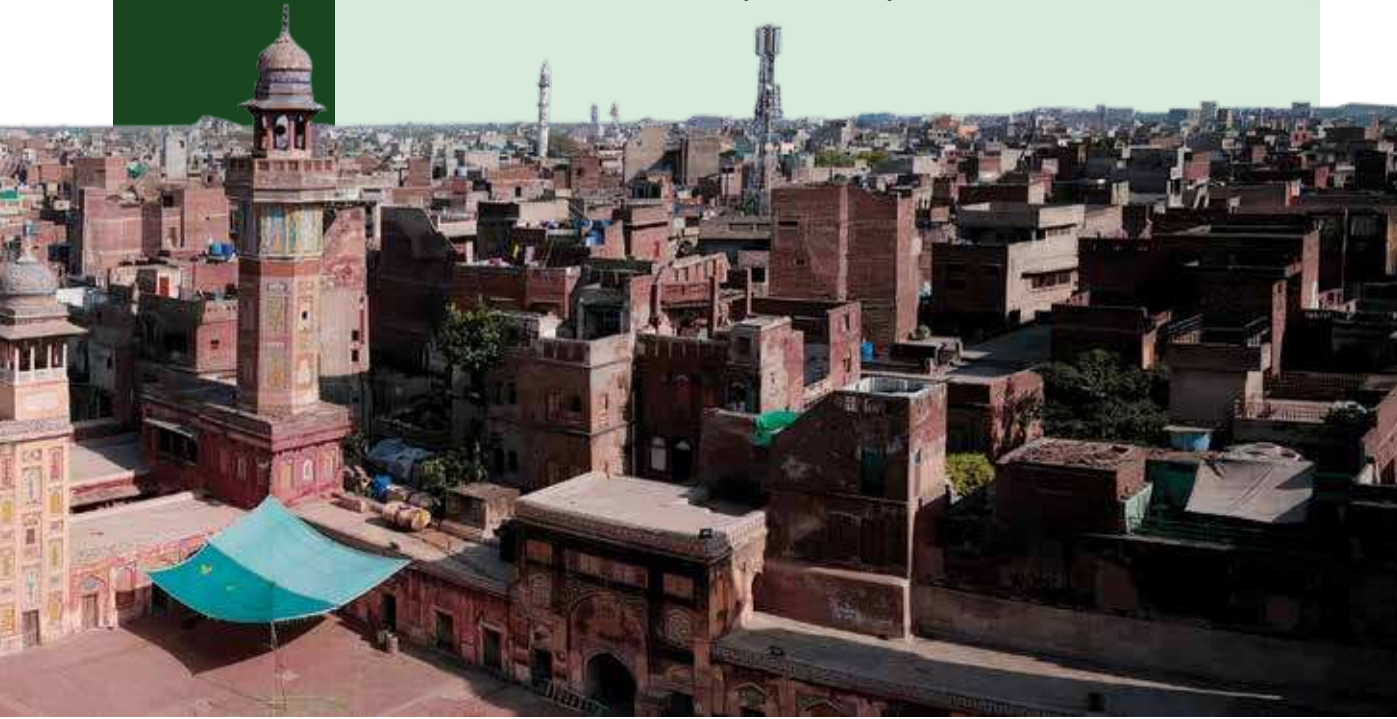
Most of the interest of Pakistanis in Iran has been focused on religious tourism, the total annual value of which is a little less than one million dollars, although Iran is a country with more attractive tourist and historical places than Pakistan, Isfahan,

3 Tabriz, Mashhad, Shiraz, Kashan. , Yazd and Kerman are the historical and touristic cities of Iran, while Tehran is at the top of the international cities, the remnants of the Qajar, Safavi and Nadir imperial periods and a series of museums are popular tourist destinations. Unaware of all virtues.

The two disadvantages of this ignorance are in front and one is hidden, the economic and lack of connection between the people and the people are the front disadvantages, while the hidden damage is related to mutual political relations, an important factor of which is related to communal harmony, between the two countries. Real tourism will have a positive impact on the mutual political decisions of the states.

There are many opportunities for religious and general tourism between Pakistan and Iran. Developed by If the face is shown, millions of people from Pakistan can enjoy the full enjoyment of Europe from Iran tourism with less capital.

Isfahan and Shiraz are two ancient cultural and historical cities of Iran. Kashan is a monument of the palaces of kings, Shiraz is a monument of the great Iranian government, one end of which extended to Egypt and the other to Europe and Moscow. Pakistan is a source of pride for the people of the region in which it is located. It is in the interest of all countries to increase tourism in the East to compete with the Western capitalist view of the clash of civilizations.



Iranian boys flying high at FIVB U19 World Championship



Iranian middle-blocker Armin Qelichniazi (20) hits a spike during a straight-set victory over Puerto Rico at the FIVB Boys' U19 World Championship in San Juan, Argentina, on August 3, 2023.

● FIVB

Sport Desk

Iran registered a second successive victory at the FIVB Boys' U19 World Championship in San Juan, Argentina, thanks to a 3-0 (25-18, 25-15, 25-12) rout of Puerto Rico on Thursday. Mohammad Vakili's boys had opened their campaign in Pool C with a straight-set win against South Korea. Abolfazl Mahdian and Matin Hosseini contributed with a game-high 12 points apiece for the two-time world champion, which tallied a remarkable 10 aces against Puerto Rico – including four for outside-hitter Hosseini.

The result kept Iran atop the pool with three wins as Vakili's team has already been handed a 3-0 win against Nigeria after the African side withdrew from the competition. Chasing a first world title since 2017, Iran will face Colombia – beaten in four sets by South Korea on Thursday – in the final match of the preliminary round today. Elsewhere on Thursday, USA, having rested on the first day of the competition, got off to flying start in Pool A with a 3-0 (25-20, 25-16, 25-15) sweep of Costa Rica, while Argentina walked away with a second victory on

home soil, beating Serbia 3-0 (25-14, 25-12, 25-22). Belgium also celebrated a straight-set victory in their opening Pool D game in San Juan, hammering Chile 25-21, 25-18, and 25-22. Reigning European champion Italy tops Pool D after claiming a 3-0 (25-20, 25-15, 25-21) win against Mexico. The biggest upset of the tournament so far came in Pool B, where France pulled off a 3-1 (25-21, 20-25, 25-18, 25-19) triumph over the world's number one U19 team Bulgaria. The top four of each group will progress to the last-16 round.

Iran crowned Asian junior weightlifting champion



Iran's Taha Nemati celebrates after a successful attempt in the boys' junior +102kg contest at the Asian Youth & Junior Weightlifting Championships in Delhi, India, on August 3, 2023.

● iwfsport

Sport Desk

A remarkable 23 medals – including nine golds – saw the Iranian boys win the junior contests at the Asian Youth & Junior Weightlifting Championships in Delhi, India. In the absence of weightlifting powerhouse China, the Iranian team finished atop the table with 741 points – nine points clear of runner-up Uzbekistan – with the host in third with 672 points. Iranians dominated the heavyweight events in Delhi, grabbing all 12 gold and silver medals in the 102kg and +102kg weight classes. The +102kg contests were all about Taha Nemati, who registered the best lifts of 166kg in snatch, 200kg in the clean & jerk, and 366kg in total for a clean sweep of golds. Nemati was followed in each category by fellow Iranian Hamidreza Mohammadi, who tallied a 158kg snatch lift as well as 192kg in the C&J event before an overall 350kg record sealed three silvers for him. Abolfazl Zare', meanwhile, walked away with all three golds up for grabs in the 102kg competitions after his successful 158kg snatch attempt was followed by a best 190kg record in the C&J event, which also brought the total gold for the Iranian with 348kg. Zare's glorious campaign also secured the snatch gold plus the C&J and total silvers of the youth contests for the Iranian. The three junior silvers of the weight class went to Abolfazl Kiani, who recorded 141kg in snatch, 177kg in the clean & jerk, and 318kg in total. Illiya Salehipour got Iran off the mark in the

boys' junior event by grabbing triple silvers in the 81kg contests, while the first gold medals for the country came in the 89kg class, where Amirmohammad Soleimani grabbed the snatch gold, C&J bronze and the total silver, with Farhad Qolizadeh claiming the C&J and total golds plus the snatch silver. Qolizadeh's records saw the Iranian finish his campaign with the C&J silver and the total bronze in the youth contests. Representing Iran in the 96kg competitions, Hamidreza Zarei took the clean & jerk silver with 174kg before a tally of 306kg gave him the total bronze.

Glory for girls

The Iranian girls enjoyed a glorious run in Delhi, stealing the show in the 64kg weight class with five gold medals. Fatemeh Keshavarz made history by becoming the first Iranian girl to walk away with an Asian youth gold after grabbing all three coveted medals of the class. Ghazeleh Hosseini also wrote her name in the history books by winning the first junior girls' golds for the country at the Asian Championships as she finished on the first podium on three occasions in the 64kg category. Haniyeh Sharifi, meanwhile, had a decent finish in India with the junior C&J silver and total bronze of the weight class. Reyhaneh Karimi added three youth medals to Iran's medal count in the girls' 59kg event. She tallied 81kg for the snatch bronze and went on to register 107kg to take the C&J silver and the total bronze.

Kiani bags fourth taekwondo gold for Iran at World University Games

Sport Desk

Nahid Kiani grabbed a fourth taekwondo gold for Iran at the FISU Summer World University Games in Chengdu, China. The reigning Asian champion came out on top in two rounds against Su Po-ya of the Chinese Taipei to walk away with the ultimate prize of the women's -53kg weight class on Thursday. This was a fifth women's taekwondo medal for the country in the Games after Narges Mirnourollahi had settled for the joint bronze of the -62kg contests, while Anahita Tavakkoli took the +73kg silver. Yasaman Limouchi finished her campaign in the individual poomsae contests with a joint bronze and was also part of the Iranian trio – alongside Reyhaneh Omrani and Mobina Sharifi – that shared the third podium with Vietnam in the team event. Elsewhere on Thursday, Ari-an Salimi made it to the final showdown of the men's -87kg competitions, only to suffer a 2-1 defeat against the host's Meng

Mingquan and take the silver. Salimi's silver rounded off an impressive campaign in the men's taekwondo for the Iranians, who also collected three gold and bronze medals apiece. Mehdi Haji Mousaei defeated Uz-

bekistan's Omonjon Otajonov for the coveted gold of the -54kg class, while a second final featuring Iranian and Uzbekistani contestants saw Alireza Hosseinpour come out victorious against Amirbek Turayev. A world silver medalist in 2017, Mirhassem Hosseini also left the Games with a gold thanks to a victory over home-favorite Cui Yang in the -74kg final. Mehran Barkhordari claimed the joint -80kg bronze, while in the men's poomsae events, Morteza Zendehtdel finished third to South Korean Wanjin Kang and Mingda Hu of China. Zndehtdel then went on to team up with Reza Jalalifar and Ali Mousania for another poomsae bronze in the Games.



Iran's Nahid Kiani poses with her women's -53kg gold in the taekwondo competitions of the Summer World University Games in Chengdu, China, on August 3, 2023.

● MNA

Chelsea sign France international Disasi on six-year deal

BBC – France international defender Axel Disasi has joined Chelsea from Monaco on a six-year contract for 45m euros (£38.57m). Disasi, 25, offers defensive cover at Stamford Bridge after Wesley Fofana sustained a serious knee injury. He played in all 38 of Monaco's Ligue 1 games last season. "I am really proud to be able to be a part of this great family," Disasi told Chelsea's website. "I hope to achieve very big things here. To win titles. I will do everything I can to achieve those objectives. I am very ambitious." The Blues, meanwhile, have agreed a fee with Brighton for goalkeeper Robert Sanchez, while several bids for the Spaniard's team-mate Moises Caicedo have been rejected by the Seagulls. Disasi has played four times for France, including featuring as a substitute in the 2022 World Cup final defeat against Argentina, and made 129 appearances for Monaco after joining from Stade de Reims in August 2020. The centre-back becomes Chelsea's

sixth signing of the summer following the acquisitions of Christopher Nkunku, Nicolas Jackson, Lesley Ugochukwu, Angelo Gabriel and Diego Moreira, as new manager Mauricio Pochettino continues to put his stamp on the squad. Disasi will compete with fellow central defenders Thiago Silva, Trevoh Chalobah, and Levi Colwill – who signed a new deal on 2 August – for a starting berth, while compatriot Benoit Badiashile will miss the start of the Premier League season with a hamstring injury and Fofana is expected to be sidelined for several months after damaging his anterior cruciate ligament. Mateo Kovacic, Edouard Mendy, Kalidou Koulibaly, N'Golo Kante, Mason Mount, Kai Havertz, Christian Pulisic, Ruben Loftus-Cheek, Ethan Ampadu, Pierre Emerick-Aubameyang, Abdul Rahman Baba and former captain Cesar Azpilicueta have all departed the club so far this summer.

● GETTY IMAGES



First Announcement

Tender invitation

Invitation to public tender for Potassium Carbonate // 65500kg

Tabriz petrochemical company intends to procure its required quantity of Potassium Carbonate for Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) production plant from reputable & reliable producer and supplier of said product. Interested suppliers should submit their request to below email in order to get tender documents until Aug13, 2023.

Deadline for submission of offers for tender is Aug24, 2023.

Email: n.ahmadian@tpco.ir

Phone No.: +98-41-34217426

Tender	No	Quantity
Potassium Carbonate	PVS-0241026	65500 kg

Public Relations of Tabriz Petrochemical Company (Public Stock)

First turn published: August 05, 2023

Second turn published: August 10, 2023

Iran's battle against child labor lacks effective monitoring

Social Desk

The Iranian Parliamentary Research Center has released a report emphasizing the critical importance of effective monitoring in combating child labor. According to the report, approximately 8 percent of children in Iran are trapped in exploitative child labor, and when including those who work at home, the figure rises to about 15 percent of the country's children. Additionally, it reveals that around 10 percent of child laborers are unable to attend school. The report, titled 'Challenges in Monitoring Effective Elimination of Child Labor,' sheds light on the various reasons why some chil-

dren are forced into child labor, often due to poverty in their households. These children engage in different forms of labor, such as working in workshops. Child labor, as defined by the study, involves work that robs children of their "childhood, potential, and dignity," and significantly "hampers their physical and mental development." It's concerning that despite child labor being legally prohibited and deemed a crime according to both international and domestic laws, including Iran's Labor Law (1990) and the Law on the Protection of Children and Adolescents (2020), reports indicate that children are still being exploited and used in economic activities.

This highlights the "inadequacy of law enforcement and the absence of effective monitoring mechanisms" to prevent child labor. Insufficient enforcement of laws and a lack of supervision in workshops are major contributing factors to the persistence of this problem. The report brings to attention the challenges in monitoring and eliminating some of the worst forms of child labor. Activities such as domestic work, illegal practices like drug trafficking, hazardous labor in remote and unmonitored areas including "cross-border labor", and child sexual exploitation in various fields are particularly difficult to monitor and address. For



● Hamshahri online

example, enforcing labor laws regarding domestic work is challenging as it occurs within private settings. To combat such practices, efforts must focus on tackling poverty and raising awareness throughout society.

Iran has acknowledged and accepted several international agreements aimed at prohibiting child labor, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labor. In addition, the country has enacted domestic laws to address and forbid child labor. Despite these legal measures, the unfortunate reality is that children are still engaged in different forms of child

labor, including some of the worst and most exploitative ones.

The parliamentary report highlights that the involvement of children in such labor practices is a clear indication of weak law enforcement. While the Labor and Social Affairs Inspection Directorate is tasked with overseeing workshops to prevent child labor, and the Ministry of Interior is mandated to ensure access to education for all Iranian children and citizens, and the Welfare Organization is responsible for regulating street children, the effectiveness of these supervisory bodies has been questionable.

In particular, the Labor and

Social Affairs Inspection General Directorate and other authorities often fail to adequately penalize employers who violate child labor laws. Their supervision of workshops tends to rely on bureaucratic processes and relies heavily on reports from non-governmental organizations rather than conducting direct on-site inspections. As a consequence of this lack of effective monitoring, children continue to be exploited and subjected to various economic activities against their best interests. The absence of rigorous supervision in workshops remains a significant contributing factor to the persistent problem of child labor in Iran.



Ta'zieh holds an eternal place in my heart



By Mahdieh Ghazvinian
Staff writer

Iranian traditional music has been preserved through the revered art of ta'zieh. Apart from its remarkable performance aspects, this art holds immense religious and cultural significance. The presence of esteemed masters like Abolfazl Saberi and the nurturing of talent contribute to the preservation and propagation of this art form.

Saberi, an esteemed figure in Iran's ta'zieh tradition, was born in 1977 into a family with deep roots in the city of Tafresh – a city that has come to be known for its traditional rituals concerning Muharram. From the tender age of six, despite being illiterate, he memorized copies of ta'zieh with his father's guidance and portrayed the role of Hazrat-e Ruqayya (the daughter of Imam Hussein).

Saberi and his group have performed at numerous domestic festivals within Iran as well as international festivals held in countries

such as England, Russia, and South Korea. Last year, their group secured first place among 24 participating nations at the International Festival of the Sahara in Africa.

Saberi possesses strong convictions about ta'zieh and urges officials to pay more attention to this art form while providing it with more support.

He says, "God willing, ta'zieh will attain its rightful position within national media." Regarding current conditions for hosting ta'zieh events compared to previous years, Saberi expresses gratitude.

"Thankfully, both quantitatively and qualitatively speaking, conditions for holding ta'zieh are very favorable now. One positive aspect is that young people have shown great interest in various aspects related to foundership roles or participation as singers or musicians dedicated to ta'zieh arts. Despite recent challenges posed by COVID-19 during these past two or three years, ta'zieh events continue extensively throughout the country; even online platforms en-



able people to watch some performances."

Saberi firmly believes that ta'zieh holds the power to influence teenagers and young individuals.

"When ta'zieh is performed, the front rows are often occupied by young people and teenagers. We find joy in their attendance, as they observe, reflect, and engage with this art form. I consider ta'zieh as the most potent medium for preserving the rich culture of Imam Hussein. It is not merely an acquired skill; a ta'zieh performer must possess the essence and spirit that can be further honed through learning music and literary discussions under experienced teachers."

Regarding the reception of ta'zieh among its audience,

Saberi explains, "Those who deeply love ta'zieh feel it coursing through their veins. They attend these gatherings wholeheartedly, immersing themselves in every aspect of this art. Every art form has its own following, and ta'zieh is no exception. However, beyond artistic appreciation, it holds a unique popularity due to its connection to the beliefs regarding the culture of Ashura."

Saberi shares his personal experience when performing ta'zieh compared to everyday life.

"When I don the attire for a ta'zieh performance, my mind becomes solely focused on embodying my role while chanting with utmost dedication. My thoughts revolve entirely around giving

my best within that character's portrayal. This interest began during childhood and remains unwavering; God willing, I hope to wear this badge of honor until my last breath."

He emphasizes that engaging with ta'zieh requires preliminary steps from all individuals regardless of their field or position. They should strive towards upholding Imam Hussein's

sacred legacy.

To Saberi, ta'zieh represents an enduring love that never fades throughout his lifetime. "Ta'zieh goes beyond historical reenactment; it carries profound messages encompassing love, politeness, self-sacrifice, chivalry, self-confidence, forgiveness, and altruism. Even religious traditions such as marriage find their reflection within the tapestry of ta'zieh."



● COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Iran ranks first in computer game production in region



● IRNA

Social Desk

Gaming industry is one of the most exciting technological industries because of its importance to culture, entertainment and technological advancement.

There were about 23 million video game players in Iran as of 2015. And by 2023 this number has increased to about 32 million, according to Press TV.

The average age of players in Iran has reached 23 years while this number in US is 33 years which shows that gaming is getting more and more popular among Iranian families, according to Eco News.

While the gaming industry is booming worldwide, expected to be worth \$321 billion by 2026, it is time to formally recognize it as a career choice in Iran, beyond the realms of fun and recreation since video games are among the most popular hobbies of Iranian youth.

Managing Director of Iran Computer and Video Games Foundation Mohammad-Amin Haji-Hashemi said that based on the studies carried out by Tabriz Islamic Art University, Iran ranks first in the region and 18th in the world in terms of computer games production.

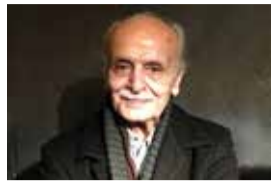
"Iran has made a significant progress in the field of producing computer over the past years," he stated.

"We are making efforts to organize an event in which Iranian game producers and their sponsors can cooperate with one another and commercialize their products more easily," he added.

Haji-Hashemi continued that although economic sanctions imposed on Iran have created many problems for Iranian video game developers and prevented the country's gamers from playing some foreign games, fruitful developments have been taken place thanks to efforts made by Iranian knowledge-based companies in the field of producing mobile and computer games.

"Attempts are made to prepare condition for Iranian companies involving in the production of computer games to cooperate with their foreign counterparts," he concluded.

Iranian dubber, actor Manouchehri dies



Arts & Culture Desk

IRNA – Hamid Manouchehri, an 82-year-old actor and pioneer in Iranian radio and dubbing, died on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at Shahram Hospital in Tehran due to complications from a hip fracture and pulmonary disease.

On Friday, he was laid to rest at the Artists' Section of Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery in southern Tehran.

Born in Tehran in 1941, Manouchehri began his journey in the entertainment industry at the age of 16 with radio performances. A year later, he started exploring the art of dubbing under the guidance of Houshang Kazemi, paving the way for an extraordinary career.

In 1963, Manouchehri joined Radio Iran with the support of Nosratollah Mohtasham, becoming a significant figure in the broadcasting world. He directed the children's radio program from 1972 to 1978, captivating young audiences with his storytelling. Beyond his radio and dubbing contributions, Manouchehri left a lasting impact on the film and television industries. He graced the silver screen with memorable roles in films like 'Broken Fist and Gun,' 'Devil's Associates,' 'Mission,' 'The Second Face of the Fall,' and 'Owls.' On television, he made his mark in serials such as 'One of These Days,' 'The Story of a Life,' and the acclaimed 'The Enigma of the Shah,' where he showcased his acting talents as Ayatollah Kashani. As we bid farewell to this legendary artist, his legacy will live on through the airwaves, reminding us of the magic he brought to countless hearts and minds during his illustrious career.

Gaza open-air cinema delights Palestinians

AFB – Gaza Strip residents experienced a rare treat over the past two weeks as they gathered on the beach for the "Cinema of the Sea" film festival, a breath of fresh air for Palestinians in an enclave lacking operating movie theaters.

The festival, which ended on Monday, showcased about 15 films, many featuring Palestinian actors and producers, offering a respite from the heat in the impoverished territory, as reported by i24news.tv. Organized by the Al-Bahr Elna Cooperative Café, in collaboration with the Culture Ministry, the open-air festival allowed the community to gather and enjoy films such as 'Farha,' a Jordanian film depicting the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and the creation of the Jewish state, and 'Ferdinand,' an animated blockbuster about a giant and kind-hearted black bull.

- License Holder: Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA)
- Managing Director: Ali Kakadezfuli
- Editor-in-chief: Mostafa Shirmohammadi
- Int'l & National Desk: Javad Mohammad Ali, Zohreh Qanadi, Ebrahim Beheshti, Amir Mollae Mozaffari
- Economy Desk: Reza Abesh Ahmadlou, Sadeq Dehqan
- Sports Desk: Amirhadi Arsalanpour
- Iranica Desk: Leila Imeni
- Arts & Culture Desk: Hamideh Hosseini
- Social Desk: Ali Amiri
- Language Editor: Ali Mehran

Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA)
 Ali Kakadezfuli
 Mostafa Shirmohammadi
 Javad Mohammad Ali, Zohreh Qanadi,
 Ebrahim Beheshti, Amir Mollae Mozaffari
 Reza Abesh Ahmadlou, Sadeq Dehqan
 Amirhadi Arsalanpour
 Leila Imeni
 Hamideh Hosseini
 Ali Amiri
 Ali Mehran

Address: #22, Hosseini-Rad Alley, South of Shahid Motahari St., Vali-e Asr Ave., Tehran, Iran
 Editorial Dept. Tel: +98 21 88913453
 Editorial Dept. Fax: +98 21 88930684
 ICPI Publisher: +98 21 88548892, 5
 Advertising Dept. Tel: +98 21 88500617
 & Email: irandaily@iranagahiha.com
 Website: www.irandaily.ir
 & Email: newspaper.irandaily.ir
 irandaily@icpi.ir
 Printing House: Iran Cultural & Press Institute



Iranian composer Bolourchi awarded

Arts & Culture Desk

Pejman Bolourchi, a highly accomplished composer and dulcimer player, was honored with a prestigious gold medal at the World Best Musicians Competition in the US for his exceptional composition, 'Nature Dance'. The

recognition adds to his already impressive list of accolades, which includes winning the Akademia Music Awards in the United States.

'Nature Dance' has garnered widespread acclaim since its release, receiving esteemed recognition at the Global Music Awards

in January 2022, as reported by IRNA.

Bolourchi, also the esteemed director of the Nahaleh Rudaki Cultural and Art Institute, holds a prominent position in the realm of Iranian music publishing. His extensive body of work includes captivating solos, ensembles, and

compositions that have left an indelible mark on the Iranian music scene. The award-winning composer's dedication to his craft and artistic contributions continue to enrich the world of music both in Iran and beyond.



Teahouse paintings on display at Tehran's Museum of Fine Arts

Arts & Culture Desk

The Teahouse Paintings Art Exhibition, held at the Museum of Fine Arts, in collaboration with the Ferdowsi Foundation, opened on August 1 with a warm reception from visitors and art enthusiasts. The exhibition featured 17 captivating works from esteemed artists and masters of this genre, including Mohammad Modabber, Mirza Mehdi Naqqash Shirazi, Amirhossein Moqimi, and Abdollah Rahimi. The event was inaugurated in the presence of Seyyed Hossein Alavi, director of the Sa'dabad Cultural-Historical Complex, and Yasser Movahedfard, secretary-general of the Ferdowsi

Foundation, alongside other museum officials and artists. During the opening, Movahedfard delivered insights into the history of teahouse paintings, setting the stage for a remarkable display of artistic talent. Following the inauguration, young artists Hassan Rasouli and Mohammad Hossein Rasouli mesmerized the audience with their ta'zieh performances related to the significant event of Ashura. Alavi, in his remarks, highlighted the exceptional significance of the exhibition, underscoring its ability to draw attention to the hidden treasure held within the Sa'dabad Cultural-Historical Complex. He praised the beauty and value of

the exhibited collection, which gains widespread appreciation when showcased during various events. Discussing the distinction between modern art and pre-modern art, Alavi emphasized how modern artists place themselves at the center of their understanding of the world, adopting a subjective lens in their artistic expressions. On the other hand, pre-modern artists serve as witnesses to reality without distorting it. The director also noted the uniqueness of teahouse paintings, dating back to the Safavid period, when artists strove to remove themselves from their artistic works, resulting in many unsigned pieces. The intention is for the



artist to act as a documentary observer of events and truths rather than a dominant presence in the artwork. The exhibition, a captivating journey into the diverse world

of teahouse paintings, will remain open until the end of the month of Muharram (August 17), offering visitors an opportunity to experience this artistic heritage firsthand.

Immersive art firm behind Van Gogh, Monet shows files for bankruptcy

It has been billed as the "future of art" by some critics and praised as a way of bringing some of the world's most iconic masterpieces to a mass audience. But now one of the biggest companies behind the boom in "immersive art" has filed for bankruptcy, suggesting the craze could end up being short-lived. Lighthouse Immersive is a Toronto-based company known for its immersive experiences of Vincent van Gogh, Frida Kahlo and Claude Monet as well as Disney animations. The company was believed to have sold more than 7m tickets to its exhibitions across 18 cities in North America. Yet in June its forthcoming Disney shows in Houston and Atlanta were cancelled without explanation. Now, according to court

documents reportedly obtained by Bloomberg News, the company has filed for Chapter 15 bankruptcy in the US state of Delaware, the Guardian reported. The company's touring Van Gogh installation was one of many to use the Dutch artist's work. Viewers pay to see gigantic reproductions of his masterpieces beamed over gallery walls while being treated to special effects, such as seeing imaginary brushstrokes being applied to Sunflowers or watching the skies of The Starry Night swirl. Debate has raged over the cultural value of these immersive shows. Writing in the Guardian, Hettie O'Brien described her experience of attending an immersive Van Gogh experience in east London in less

than glowing terms: "The show seemed to be trying very hard to cultivate a sense of momentousness, but the overall impression was haphazard, as if its creators didn't want people to look too closely at the details." Art critic Jonathan Jones was even more dismissive of David Hockney: Bigger and Closer, another immersive show, albeit one put together by the artist himself. "It is a dumb contemporary fad that doesn't – and cannot – capture the beauty of his art," Jones wrote. Gimmick or not, there seemed less debate around the fact that these events could generate money. In 2020, the Serpentine's Arts Technologies programme published a report with ideas for how ticketed immersive experi-



ences could bring the art world closer to the financial model of theme parks. The current London exhibition 'Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience' still

runs shows every half hour, six days a week, charging up to £35 for a standard ticket, despite no original works by Van Gogh being on display.